12.

Midd. ſſ. Preſentments of the Grand Jury for the County of Middleſex, *at a General Quarter Seſſions of the Peace held at* Hicks-Hall *in* St. Johns-ſtreet, *by Adjournment the Fifteenth day of* October, *in the Year of our Lord*, 1682.

WE preſent that Magiſtrates who are Authoriſed by the King's Commiſſion, and no other perſons ought to intermeddle in Matters of Government, and the Adminiſtrtion of the Laws in this County. And that the Aſſociations of private perſons by getting hands to Papers, or otherwiſe in Matters relateing to the Government, are deſtructive to the publick Peace, eſpecially a Paper which we have now before us, which was lately preſented to the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of *London*, and Signed in a clandeſtine way which related to the chooſing of Sheriffs, and we the Grand Jury do diſown any ſuch proceedings.

That if any perſon or perſons, have any thing to propoſe for the Advantage of the Publick, they ought firſt to preſent it to their Repreſentatives of the County, the Grand Jury, or to the Quarter Seſſions, that there it may be debated and approved of, before it be Publiſhed; and that all Writings, and Printings otherways are Mutinous, and Seditious, and tend to the Diſturbance of the Peace of the County, and are therefore to be diſcountenanced, and puniſhed by all legall ways.

We further preſent that *Aſſociations*, *Conventicles*, *Libells*, are deſtructive to the publick Peace, and ought to be ſuppreſſed, and the Offenders Diſarmed, and that the perſons whoſe names are Subſcribed to the Scandalous and Seditious Paper lately preſented to the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen of the City of *London*, which we have now before us, are Seditious perſons and ought to be enquired after, whether they frequent their Pariſh Church, or are in any Millitary or Civil Employments; That they ought not to be permitted to be in ſuch Employments, by which thy will have oppertunities to draw people together to Plot, and contrive the diſturbance of the Peace of this County, and conſequently of the whole Kingdom, In which by the bleſſing of God, and his Majeſties Wiſe and Mercifull Government, this Kingdom enjoyeth Peace, Plenty, and Happineſs above all the Kingdoms of the World that we know of; And we hope this Honourable Bench will concur with us in this Opinion.

Vera Copia, Adderly.

TO THE
Kings most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE your Majesties most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Justices of the Peace Assembled at *Hicks-Hall* in *Quarter-Sessions*, have received a Presentment from the *Grand-Jury* (who are Gentlemen of considerable Estates and Interests) to which we have Unanimously given our Concurrence. It contains Matters of great Importance, which we thought fit humbly to lay before your Majesty, The which if your Majesty in your Wisdome shall Approve, We doubt not but by Your Direction they will be brought to good Effect. *Faction* is a Weed which hath Poysoned several Parts of the Kingdom, and is Nourished by profits and advantages which Opportunity affords to it, if the Nourishment be taken from it, We hope the Weed will quickly whither, and in a short time dye. As to the Matters of the Presentment which are within the Extent of our Commission, we have already in part, and shall further take Care to have them put in Execution. The rest we humbly leave and submit to Your Majesties Great Wisdome.

Per Cur. Adderley.

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